

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 8-14, amend claims 1-7, and add new claims 15-23. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place comprising:

5 a customer-operated automatic meal ticket dispenser which
accepts a customer-initiated order, corresponding to order
identifying information, and which dispenses a meal ticket, the
A dispenser including first transmitting means for transmitting the
order identifying information of the meal ticket proximate the
time the order is placed,

10 reading units, arranged in customers' tables, respectively,
for reading order identifying information of meal tickets of
customers,

second transmitting means for transmitting cooking
information including the order identifying information read by
[[the]] a respective reading unit and a seat number identifying

15 information on the table in which the reading unit is arranged,
and

20 cooking information informing means for receiving the order
identifying information transmitted by the first transmitting
means and the cooking information transmitted by the second
transmitting means, and for ~~informing at least either of a cook~~
[[and]] or a cooking director of ~~at least~~ the order identifying
information and the seat number identifying information of the
cooking information transmitted by the second transmitting means.

2. (Currently Amended) The food and drink serving system for
[[the]] an eating and drinking place according to Claim 1,
comprising a food and drink carrier container and identifying
information imparting means for imparting the seat number
5 identifying information to the food and drink carrier container.

3. (Currently Amended) A food and drink serving system for an
eating and drinking place comprising:

a customer-operated automatic meal ticket dispenser which
accepts a customer-initiated order, corresponding to order
identifying information, and which dispenses a meal ticket, the
dispenser including first transmitting means for transmitting the
order identifying information of the meal ticket proximate the
time the order is placed,

reading units, arranged in customers' tables, respectively,
for reading order identifying information of meal tickets of
customers,

second transmitting means for transmitting cooking
information including the order identifying information read by
[[the]] a respective reading unit and a seat number identifying
information on the table in which the reading unit is arranged,

an automatic cooking unit for automatically cooking an
ordered food and drink in accordance with the order identifying
information ~~of the cooking information~~ transmitted by the first
transmitting means, and

a seat number identifying information imparting means for
imparting the seat number identifying information to an
automatically-cooked-food-and-drink carrier container in
accordance with the seat number identifying information of the
cooking information transmitted by the second transmitting means.

4. (Currently Amended) The food and drink serving system for
[[the]] an eating and drinking place according to Claim 2,
comprising [[an]] automatic conveying means for putting the
cooked food thereon and conveying [[it]] the cooked food from a
5 food preparation location ~~cooking place~~ to the seat associated
with the seat number identifying information.

5. (Currently Amended) The food and drink serving system for
[[the]] an eating and drinking place according to Claim 3,
comprising [[an]] automatic conveying means for putting the
cooked food thereon and conveying [[it]] the cooked food from a
5 food preparation location ~~cooking place~~ to the seat associated
with the seat number identifying information.

6. (Currently Amended) The food and drink serving system for
[[the]] an eating and drinking place according to Claim 4,
wherein the automatic conveying means comprises [[a]] guide means
for announcing an arrival of [[the]] ordered food and drink to
5 the customer when the food and drink arrives ~~is arrived~~ at the
seat associated with the seat number identifying information.

7. (Currently Amended) The food and drink serving system for
the eating and drinking place according to Claim 5, wherein the
automatic conveying means comprises [[a]] guide means for
announcing an arrival of [[the]] ordered food and drink to the
5 customer when the food and drink arrives ~~is arrived~~ at the seat
associated with the seat number identifying information.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

AA 12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 1, wherein the customer initiated order is provided to the dispenser prior to the customer being seated in the eating and drinking place.

16. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 3, wherein the customer initiated order is provided to the dispenser prior to the customer being seated in the eating and drinking place.

AJ 17. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 1, wherein the customer initiated order is transmitted by the first transmitting means prior to the customer being seated in the eating and drinking place.

18. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 3, wherein the customer initiated order is transmitted by the first transmitting means prior to the customer being seated in the eating and drinking place.

19. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 1, wherein the automatic meal

ticket dispenser is configured to accept payment from the customer proximate the time that the customer-initiated order is provided to the dispenser.

20. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 3, wherein the automatic meal ticket dispenser is configured to accept payment from the customer proximate the time that the customer-initiated order is provided to the dispenser.

21. (New) A food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place comprising:

an automatic meal ticket dispenser which accepts a customer-initiated order, corresponding to order identifying information, and which dispenses a meal ticket, and first transmitting means for transmitting the order identifying information of the meal ticket proximate the time the order is placed and prior to the customer being seated in the eating and drinking place,

reading units, arranged in customers' tables, respectively, for reading order identifying information of meal tickets of customers,

second transmitting means for transmitting cooking information including the order identifying information read by a respective reading unit and a seat number identifying information on the table in which the reading unit is arranged, and

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cooking information informing means for receiving the order identifying information transmitted by the first transmitting means and the cooking information transmitted by the second transmitting means, and for informing a cook or a cooking director of the order identifying information and the seat number identifying information of the cooking information transmitted by the second transmitting means.

22. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 21, wherein the automatic meal ticket dispenser is operated by the customer and the order is provided to the dispenser directly by the customer.

23. (New) The food and drink serving system for an eating and drinking place according to Claim 21, wherein the automatic meal ticket dispenser is configured to accept payment from the customer proximate the time that the customer-initiated order is provides to the dispenser.
